

1—Vice President Dawes delivering address at congressional funeral services for the late Representative Madden of Illinois. 2—German-Irish transatlantic aviators spreading their flags over grave of Floyd Bennett at Arlington. 3—General view of New York's reception to crew of the Bremen as the parade reached city hall.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Smith's Victory in California Seems to Make Nomination Certain.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

UNLESS most of the political prospects are sadly fooled, California last week settled the Democratic national convention at Houston, so far as the Presidential nomination is concerned. Few of them now venture any other prediction than that Al Smith has the prize all wrapped up, and it is generally believed that the rush to get into the band wagon will result in the nomination of the New York governor on the first ballot, probably by acclamation. The California primary was admittedly a test for Smith, for McAdoo strove to lead the dry Democrats of his state into the Walsh camp, and Senator Reed also was a live contender for the preference vote. But McAdoo fell down so badly that the Montana senator ran third, Reed standing in second place. Smith's victory was decisive, his vote being greater than the combined votes of the other two. With most of the precincts heard from, the result in round numbers was: Smith, 133,000; Reed, 58,000; Walsh, 46,000. Of the 58 counties, all but one were won by Smith. Imperial county was claimed for Reed. Former Senator James D. Phelan, head of the Smith delegation, has displaced McAdoo as the Democratic leader of California. The wets rejoiced in the apparent fact that the state had joined the wet column, but Dr. Arthur H. Briggs, head of the California Anti-Saloon league, asserted the wet and dry issue was not a determining factor in the fight.

Smith's delegates to Houston now number 497, this total including 157 uninstructed but known to favor him. He is expected to garner about 140 more in the next few weeks and to go into the convention with at least 835 votes. His managers believe the Ohio and Maryland delegations will be quick to shift to Smith, and that many of the Reed delegates also will climb into the band wagon promptly.

Wilbur Leggett of California, state manager for Reed, asked Josephus Daniels by wire if he would run for vice president on a third party ticket sided by Senator Reed or Senator Borah. Mr. Daniels replied that he would not accept a nomination on any third party ticket, and declared the only hope of wresting the government from the hands of "privilege and corruption" lies in a victory by the Democratic party. He said he intended to support the nominees of the Houston convention and believed enough dry Democrats would be elected to congress to guarantee no weakening of the prohibition laws.

Claude G. Bowers, an editorial writer of the New York Evening World and a political historian of note, was selected by the Democratic convention arrangements committee to be temporary chairman at Houston and to deliver the keynote speech. This choice had been expected.

HERBERT HOOVER was unopposed in the California Republican primary, but the Republicans flocked to the polls to vote for him in surprising numbers. The total G. O. P. vote cast was more than twice as large as the Democratic vote. The Golden state delegation of 29 gives Hoover an estimated total of 236 delegates to date, though 211 of these are uninstructed. His supporters now claim he will enter the convention with 526 votes, only 19 short of the necessary 545 majority. Last week the Tennessee Republican convention endorsed Hoover and also instructed the state's delegates at large to vote for Congressman J. Q. Tilson of Connecticut for vice president.

PROBABLY it will not cost as much to nominate and elect a President this year as it has sometimes in the past, for the senate has adopted a resolution for an inquiry into the campaign contributions and expenditures of both parties. The special committee named by Vice President Dawes includes Stetson of Oregon, chairman;

Dale of Vermont, McMaster of South Dakota, Barkley of Kentucky and Bratton of New Mexico. Senator Robinson, the minority leader, who presented the resolution, made no charges of improper methods in the present prevention campaigns, but said it was considered desirable to have a committee go into the matter just as the Borah committee did in 1924 and the Kenyon committee in 1920.

BY A vote of 204 to 121 the house passed the Haugen farm relief bill, which is almost identical with the McNary measure passed by the senate. Both contain the equalization fee feature which is especially objectionable to the President, and it was taken for granted that he would veto the bill that comes out of conference. Nearly all the western and southern representatives voted for the Haugen bill. The eastern Republicans voted against it, but it was supported by a considerable number of Tammany Democrats.

Veto by President Coolidge also is expected for the flood relief measure which was reported to the house by the conference committee, since the conferees insisted on retaining the flowage rights feature to which he objects.

PARTY lines were drawn quite sharply when the senate began debating the tax reduction bill. Republicans on the finance committee had cut down the total reduction of the house bill from \$200,000,000 to about \$200,000,000, which is the limit placed by the Treasury department. The Democrats still insisted on a total reduction of \$325,000,000. The fight was mainly over the corporation tax, the Republicans wishing this cut from 13 1/2 to 12 1/2 per cent and the Democrats arguing for a cut to 11 or at most 11 1/2 per cent. The Democrats also would retain the graduated scale of rates for corporations with incomes of \$15,000 or less as voted by the house. Senator Smoot expected the debate in the senate would last over a week.

HARRY SINCLAIR appeared before the senate's Teapot Dome committee and told something of the Continental Trading company deal, but not near enough to satisfy the investigators. He fended skillfully with Chairman Nye and the others and made few admissions except that he had received \$757,000 of the Continental's profits, which sum, with interest, he said he had recently turned over to the Sinclair Crude Oil Purchasing company. The committee is making up its report, but expects later to investigate the oil leases in the Salt Creek field.

RETURNING from Washington, where they attended the funeral of Floyd Bennett, the German-Irish transatlantic flyers were given the usual uproarious reception that New York accords to such celebrities. It included parades, banquets and valor medals and the aviators were almost worn out by the attentions showered upon them. Next they journeyed back to the national capital where they were officially welcomed to the United States by Secretary Kellogg with dignified ceremony. They lunched at the White House and President Coolidge pinned on their breasts the distinguished flying crosses which congress had voted them. In Arlington National cemetery they laid wreaths on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Among those who greeted them in Washington was Col. Charles A. Lindbergh, who had flown there in his "Spirit of St. Louis" for the purpose of placing that famous plane in the Smithsonian Institution. Thursday Baron von Huenefeld, Captain Koell and Major Fitzmaurice flew to New York to arrange for their air tour of the East and Middle West.

Gen. Umberto Nobile and companions left Stolp, Germany, Thursday in the airship Italia for Spitzbergen, 1,700 miles away. The Italian explorers plan to make several flights over the polar regions during the summer.

DELEGATES from all parts of the world are assembled in Kansas City in attendance on the quadrennial general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. They have a lot of business on hand, but it is not likely their doings will be tinged with sensationalism, since at the start they voted overwhelmingly against a formal dis-

cussion of fundamentalism and modernism. In their episcopal address the 44 bishops recommended that full advantage be taken of the chance to assign responsibilities to younger members of the church. They held the possibility of a world union of Christian churches to be beyond consideration at present. Among the laity there is a strong movement for the democratization of the church government, including the election of bishops for a term of years instead of for life. The conference approved a court of 17 members to try Bishop Bast of Copenhagen on charges arising out of his conviction in civil court of misusing church funds. Rev. Fred S. Stone of Chicago was chosen prosecutor.

CHIANG Kai-shek, generalissimo of the Chinese Nationalists, has moved his headquarters to Tsinan, capital of Shantung province, and is laying his plans for the final drive against Peking and the armies of Chang Tso-lin. It is reported that Chang has gathered 100,000 men in the vicinity of Tschow, where there is a large arsenal, and presumably the next big battle will be in that area. The situation between the Nationalists and the Japanese was relieved when the former agreed to reopen the Shantung railway and permit the Japanese troop trains to operate between Tsingtau and Tsinanfu. But the Nationalists in Shanghai are keeping up their anti-Japanese boycott.

JOHN BULL is likely to cancel his agreement to help Uncle Sam stop the smuggling of illegal liquor into the United States, for he is getting greatly peeved over the impetuous actions of some of the American rum chasers. Coast guard boats have been entering Bahama and Bermuda ports without warrant, and foreign ships have been seized by them allegedly without right. The British government made formal protest, and Secretary Kellogg, after replying in apologetic tone, ordered all coast guard craft to remain away from Bermuda ports. Only a few days ago, Canadian authorities complained that our enforcement agents in the Detroit area were firing shots that crossed the river and endangered the lives of Canadians. This was denied by Washington.

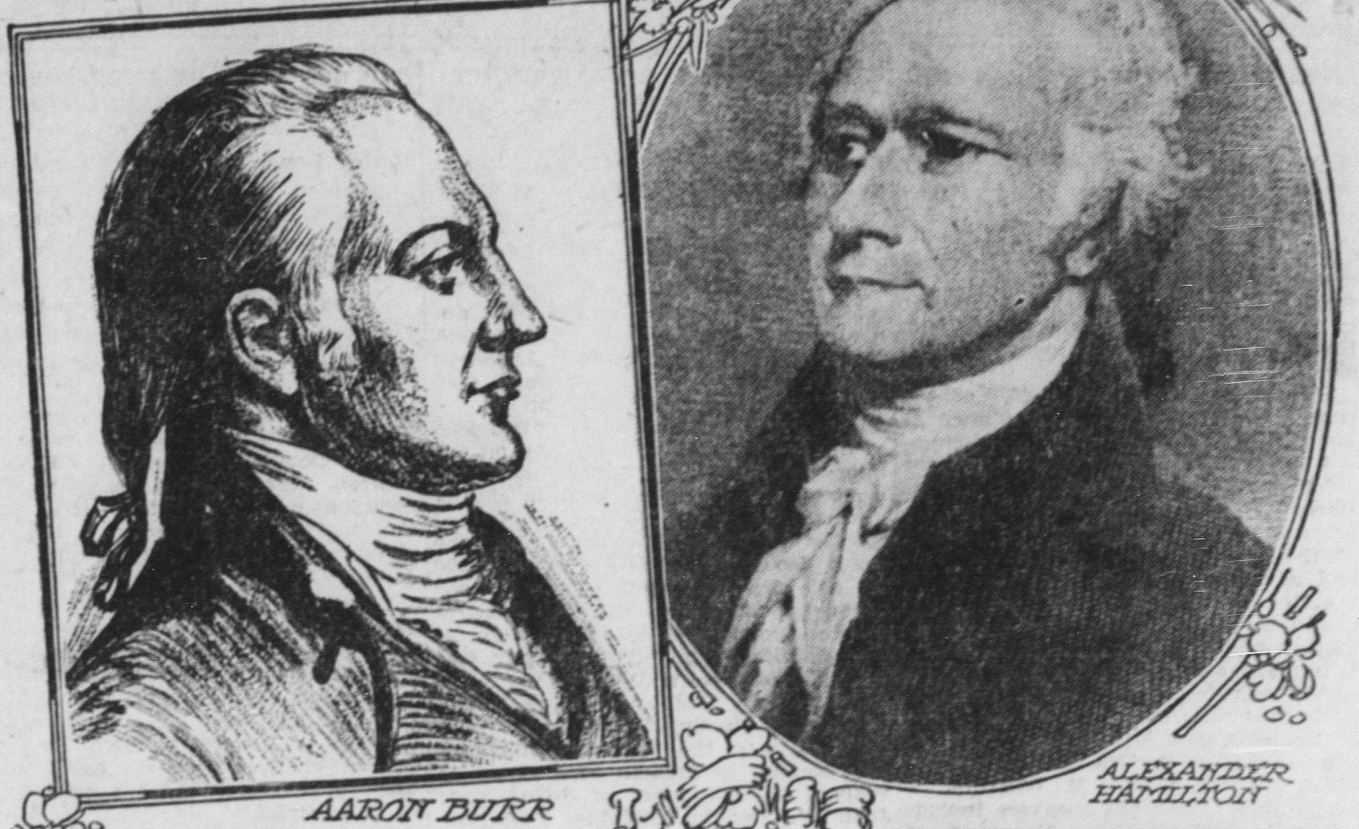
Egypt isn't going to lose its independence just yet, but it must mind its step. Great Britain's protest against the Egyptian "public assemblies bill," which it was said would hamper the protection of foreigners, was followed up by the sending of several warships to Alexandria and open threats to reduce the country again to a dependency. But the Egyptian government postponed consideration of the objectionable measure and the warships were called off. However, Foreign Secretary Chamberlain warned Egypt that there must be no revival of the controversy.

GERMANY has unqualifiedly accepted Secretary Kellogg's proposals for a multi-lateral treaty to outlaw war. The Berlin government endorses the plan enthusiastically and says it is ready to enter negotiations with the leading powers for the consummation of such a pact. The German note holds unfounded the French fear that an unconditional anti-war treaty would conflict with the League of Nations or a nation's right of self-defense, and takes the position that reservations to the American draft treaty are unnecessary.

PREMIER RAYMOND POINCARRE won a big victory in the French parliamentary elections and is assured of a working majority of about one hundred in the chamber of deputies. The country thus gave evidence that it wishes him to continue his task of putting its finances in order without interference from the radicals who had threatened his plans with destruction. As a preliminary to stabilization of the franc the premier has announced a heavy loan to reimburse the Bank of France for advances to the state.

DEATHS of the week include that of Congressman Thaddeus Sweet of New York, killed in the crash of an airplane; and of Palmer E. Anderson, United States marshal for the northern Illinois district. Mr. Anderson has been succeeded by H. C. W. Laubenheimer.

The Burr-Hamilton Duel



SCENE OF THE BURR-HAMILTON DUEL.

By ALFRED SORENSON

THE most celebrated duel ever fought on American soil was that between Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton. Burr was the son of a clergyman. When twenty years of age he enlisted in the Army of the Revolution, and for his gallant and meritorious services during Arnold's expedition against Quebec he was rewarded with a major's commission. A little later he became aide-de-camp to General Putnam, and this was followed by a promotion to a lieutenant-colonelcy, carrying with it the command of his regiment. At the close of the war Colonel Burr was admitted to the bar, and rapidly rose to prominence. He was elected a member of the New York legislature, and his next elevation was his appointment to the office of attorney-general of the state. In 1791 Burr was elected United States senator, and in 1798 he was again sent to the state legislature. He was a candidate for the Presidency in 1804. The election resulted in a tie between the highest candidates—Burr and Jefferson. The decision was thrown from the electoral college into the house of representatives, and Jefferson won. Burr was given the vice-presidency. In 1804 the Federalists nominated him for governor of New York. He was defeated.

Alexander Hamilton was born on the Island of Nevis in the West Indies. He was the son of James Hamilton, a Scotchman, who married the divorced wife of a man named Levine. He was brought up in the Island of St. Croix, and while engaged as a clerk in a counting-house he gave evidence of financial ability. He wrote occasionally for the newspapers, and his description of a hurricane in the Island of St. Christopher attracted wide attention and led his friends to send him to New York to complete his education. He first went to school in Elizabeth, N. J., and then attended King's college—now Columbia university—in New York.

In 1776, when he was nineteen years old, he joined the Army of the Revolution as a captain in an artillery company and took part in many battles. The next year he was made aide-de-camp to Washington with the rank of lieutenant-colonel. Following this honor came his appointment as inspector general. His next promotion was to a major generalship. It was as secretary of the treasury that General Hamilton won his greatest renown. Webster said of him: "He smote the rock of the national resources and abundant streams gushed forth. He

reached the corpse of the public credit and it sprang to its feet."

As early as 1790 Burr and Hamilton became political opponents. They were the most powerful leaders of their day. Burr was generally acknowledged as the political boss of the state of New York. The rivalry between these two eminent politicians was intense and bitter, and was continued until the death of Hamilton at the hands of Burr.

Burr's unsuccessful campaign for the governorship of New York, while he was still vice president, was made as an appeal to the people for vindication of his course in politics. He had fallen out with Jefferson, and was hated by the Republican leaders, whose confidence he had lost. He was at this time in accord with what was known as the Democracy. He announced himself as an independent candidate. In this campaign Burr took exception to some remarks, alleged to have been made by Hamilton, leader of the Federalists, and demanded an explanation and an apology. Burr held Hamilton accountable for having declared, with Judge Kent, that "he (Burr) was looked upon as a dangerous man, and one who ought not to be treated with the reins of government." Several letters passed between the two men, and Hamilton's replies proving unsatisfactory, Burr challenged him.

Hamilton accepted the challenge, although he was opposed to duelling. On the night before his meeting with Burr, he made a written statement in explanation of his conduct, motives and views. "My religious and moral principles," he wrote, "are strongly opposed to the practice of duelling; and it would ever give me pain to shed the blood of a fellow creature in a private combat forbidden by the laws. . . . It is not my design, by what I have said to affix any odium on the conduct of Colonel Burr in this case. He has doubtless heard of an inadvisability of mine which bore very hard upon him, and it is probable that, as usual, they were accompanied with some falsehoods. He may have supposed himself under a necessity of acting as he has done."

The Burr-Hamilton duel was fought in the morning of July 11, 1804, beneath the Heights of Weehawken, N. J. Burr with his party was the first to arrive on the scene. When Hamilton came a little later the two men exchanged salutations, and the seconds—William P. Van Ness for Burr, and Col. Nathaniel Pendleton for Hamilton—proceeded with the arrangements. They measured the distance—ten paces—and cast lots for the choice

of position, and also to determine by whom the word to fire should be given. Hamilton won. The flint-lock pistols were loaded and the duellists, taking their station, were instructed as to the rule governing the firing. This rule was that "the second who gives the word, shall ask them if they are ready, and being answered in the affirmative, he shall say 'Present!' The parties shall then present and fire when they please. If one fires before the other, the opposite second shall say 'One, two, three, fire!' and he shall then fire or lose his fire." Everything was now set for action. Hamilton's second gave the word "Present," as had been agreed upon, and both men presented and fired in succession—the intervening time was not precisely agreed on by the seconds when they made their detailed statement of the duel.

Burr, cool as an iceberg, raised his arm slowly and, taking deliberate aim, brought down his man. His bullet struck Hamilton in the right side, inflicting a mortal wound. As Hamilton fell his pistol was discharged, the bullet going upward through the trees. He was carried to the river bank and put on board a boat for New York. After reviving from a swoon Hamilton declared that he had met Burr with a determination not to harm him, and that "he forgave all that had happened."

The people of New York were shocked at the news of the duel and the subsequent death of Hamilton. The greatest excitement prevailed; flags were flown at half-mast; indignation meetings were held; and Burr was denounced as a revengeful demon. The coroner's jury in New Jersey returned a verdict to the effect that Burr was guilty of murder and that both seconds were accessories. This was followed by an indictment for murder, which was never prosecuted.

Vice President Burr, fearing personal violence at the hands of Hamilton's friends, sought safety in flight. He spent several months in the South, and on March 2, 1805, he took leave of the United States senate over which he had presided.

Burr's defeat for the highest office within the gift of the American people was a most grievous disappointment to the ambitious statesman and probably led him, after his retirement from the senate, to attempt the founding of an empire to include Mexico and the southwest section of the United States, and of which he was to be the ruler. He was arrested, tried for treason, and acquitted. Burr died at the age of eighty, poverty-stricken and friendless.

No "Fixed Stars"

The positions of the stars with reference to one another seem to remain constant, although they are continually changing their places relatively to objects on the earth. Hence the term "fixed stars." But this is only seemingly the proper expression. In reality all are speeding through space at very high velocities, but so indefinitely removed are the stars from us that they appear to be at rest. Al-

though quite the reverse, as we know, from fixed, the term is still used, because in the astronomically brief period from generation to generation, the changes are so slight that the naked eye is powerless to detect them.

Pretty Greek Legend

In Greek mythology Narcissus was a beautiful youth, a son of Cephalus and the nymph Liriope, metamorphosed into a flower. For his insensibility to love he was caused by Nemesis to fall in love with his own im-

age reflected in water. Unable to grasp this shadow, he pined away and became the flower which bears his name. The nymph Echo, who vainly loved him, died from grief.

Talking Parrots

The Mexican double yellow head is probably the best talking bird among American parrots. This is probably equal to the African gray, which is the Old world favorite. Parrots must be taught to talk while young. Older birds learn little and very slowly.